

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Template Version 2.09

Global Agriculture Information Network

Required Report - public distribution

Date: 1/13/2006

GAIN Report Number: SF6001

South Africa, Republic of Fresh Deciduous Fruit Annual 2006

Approved by:

Scott Reynolds U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:

Patricia Mabiletsa

Report Highlights:

South Africa's 2005/6 apple and pear production is expected to increase by about 10% and 5%, respectively, and with improved quality because of enough rain and sunlight. The table grape industry expects production also to increase by 6% and to improve in quality.

Includes PSD Changes: Yes Includes Trade Matrix: Yes Annual Report Pretoria [SF1]

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	3
Production	
Production Subcategory	
Consumption	
Trade	
Trade Subcategory	
Policy	
Policy Subcategory	
Marketing	
Marketing Subcategory	

Executive Summary

South Africa's 2005/6 apple and pear production is expected to increase by about 10% and 5%, respectively, and with improved quality because of enough rain and sunlight. The table grape industry expects production also to increase by 6% and to improve in quality.

The industry was still awaiting approval of formal crop estimates from the regional Crop Estimation Committees when this report was compiled.

Production

The Western Cape experienced an unusually cold winter in June and then warmth in July, which broke the dormancy patterns, resulting in uneven ripening and lower total production especially for stone fruits. However, the pome fruit (apples and pears) experienced enough water and sunlight in production regions around the Langkloof areas.

Production Subcategory

South Africa, Republic of										
				Fresh						
	2003	Revised	2004	Estimate	2005	Forecast	UOM			
	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate[New]	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate[New]	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate[New]				
Market Year Begin		01/2004		01/2005		01/2006	MM/Y YYY			
Area Planted	23720	23720	22000	22000	0	21500	(HA)			
Area Harvested	19170	19170	18400	18400	0	18000	(HA)			
Bearing Trees	17250	17250	16540	16540	0	16180	(1000 TREE S)			
Non-Bearing Trees	4100	4100	3880	3880	0	3800	(1000 TREE S)			
Total Trees	21350	21350	20420	20420	0	19980	(1000 TREE S)			
Commercial Production	724500	769309	706000	658940	0	725000	(MT)			
Non-Comm. Production	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)			
TOTAL										
Production	724500	769309	706000	658940	0	725000				
TOTAL Imports	2	2	0	0	0		(MT)			
TOTAL SUPPLY	724502	769311	706000	658940	0	725000	(MT)			
Domestic Fresh Consump	181004	181004	175000	180016	0	185000	(MT)			
Exports, Fresh Only	305664	305664	285000	226614	0	290000	(MT)			
For Processing	237834		246000	252310	0	250000	` '			
Withdrawal From Market	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)			
TOTAL UTILIZATION	724502	769311	706000	658940	0	725000	(MT)			

		South A	Africa,	Republic of	of						
Apple Juice, Concentrated											
	2003	003 Revised 2004 Estimate 2005 Forecast									
	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate[New]	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate[New]	USDA Official [Old]	Post Estimate[New]					
Market Year Begin		01/2004		01/2005		01/2006	MM/YYYY				
Deliv. To Processors	237834	282643	246000	252310	0	250000	(MT)				
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)				
Production	33680	39500	35000	35323	0	35000	(MT)				
Imports	3000	3000	3100	3100	0	3000	(MT)				
TOTAL SUPPLY	36680	42500	38100	38423	0	38000	(MT)				
Exports	15500	18000	16150	16200	0	16100	(MT)				
Domestic Consumption	21180	24500	21950	22223	0	21900	(MT)				
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	(MT)							
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	36680	42500	38100	38423	0	38000	(MT)				

In 2005/6, South Africa's deciduous fruit industry is expected to deliver a slightly lower volume of fresh apples to the juice processing plants because of improved quality that results in more sales in the fresh markets.

South Africa, Republic of										
Pears, Fresh										
	2003	Revised	2004	Estimate	2005	Forecast	UOM			
	USDA		USDA		USDA					
	Official	Post	Official	Post	Official	Post				
	[Old]	Estimate[New]	[Old]	Estimate[New]	[Old]	Estimate[New]				
Market Year										
Begin		01/2004		01/2005		01/2006	MM/YYYY			
Area Planted	14200	14200	12700	12700	0	12000	(HA)			
Area										
Harvested	10150	10150	9000	9000	0	8520	(HA)			
							(1000			
Bearing Trees	10570	10570	9360	9360	0	8860	TREES)			
Non-Bearing							(1000			
Trees	5930	5930	5240	5240	0	4980	TREES)			

							(1000
Total Trees	16500	16500	14600	14600	0	13840	TREES)
Commercial							
Production	308000	342835	303000	328631	0	345000	(MT)
Non-Comm.							
Production	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)
TOTAL							
Production	308000	342835	303000	328631	0	345000	(MT)
TOTAL Imports	0	0	1	1	0	0	(MT)
TOTAL SUPPLY	308000	342835	303001	328632	0	345000	(MT)
Domestic							
Fresh							
Consump	45170	45152	46000	49642	0	50000	(MT)
Exports, Fresh							
Only	139045	139045	130000	153646	0	170000	(MT)
For Processing	122284	157137	125500	123843	0	124000	(MT)
Withdrawal							
From Market	1501	1501	1501	1501	0	1000	(MT)
TOTAL							
UTILIZATION	308000	342835	303001	328632	0	345000	(MT)

South Africa, Republic of											
	Grapes, Table, Fresh										
	2003	Revised	2004	Estimate	2005	Forecast	UOM				
	USDA	Post	USDA	Post	USDA						
	Official	Estimate[Official	Estimate[Ne	Official	Post					
	[Old]	New]	[Old]	w]	[Old]	Estimate[New]					
Market Year											
Begin		01/2004		01/2005		01/2006	MM/YYYY				
Area Planted	19200	19200	19250	19250	0	19000	(HA)				
Area Harvested	12200	12200	12500	12500	0	12000	(HA)				
Commercial											
Production	328500 328500 285795 303734 0 322750										
Non-Comm. Production	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)				

TOTAL							
Production	328500	328500	285795	303734	0	322750	(MT)
TOTAL Imports	551	551	500	500	0	500	(MT)
TOTAL SUPPLY	329051	329051	286295	304234	0	323250	(MT)
Domestic Fresh							
Consump	29927	29920	30000	26810	0	32000	(MT)
Exports, Fresh							
Only	237244	237244	190000	211129	0	222750	(MT)
For Processing	61880	61887	66295	66295	0	68500	(MT)
Withdrawal							
From Market	0	0	0	0	0	0	(MT)
TOTAL							
UTILIZATION	329051	329051	286295	304234	0	323250	(MT)

Consumption

South Africa's total local consumption of deciduous fruit is expected to increase by about 2.8% for apples, by 19% for table grapes, and slightly for pears, because of an increase in total production.

Trade

South Africa's 2005/6 total exports are expected to increase to reach 290,000 MT for apples, 170,000 MT for pears, and 222,700 MT for table grapes. Prices for exports for 2005/6 are expected at a slight increase from a year earlier because of improved quality.

South Africa's 2005/6 apple and pear exports started about two weeks early and were average in size.

The following are major ports for apples and pear exports:

LOADING PORTS	APPLES (% load in 2005)	PEARS (% load in 2005)
Cape Town	11	9
Port Elizabeth	89	91
Durban	Less than 1	0

Source: DFPT

In 2005/6, South Africa's exports of table grapes are expected as follows:

Region	Expected Table grapes exports (million cartons)	Expected Table grapes exports (MT)
Northern Province	3.25	14,625
Northern Cape	14.75	66,375
Bergriver	13.5	60,750
Hex	18	81,000
Total	49.5	222,750

Source: South African Table grapes Association

In 2004/05, table grape exports amounted to 211,163 MT, a 11% decrease from 237,244 MT of 2003/04.

Trade Subcategory

Tables below show exports for January to October 2005:

Apples, Fresh								
Time Period			Jan	-Oct				
Exports for:	20	004	20	005	% change	% change		
	MT	US\$ MIL.	MT	US\$ MIL	MT	US\$		
U.S.	1,158	0.701	111	0.061	-90.39	-91.28		
Others								
U.K.	106,477	73.4	104,477	65.6	-1.8	-10.7		
Netherlands	30,757	15.9	24,150	12.5	-21.4	-22		
Malaysia	19,653	7.9	19,769	9.9	0.5	25		
Belgium	21,181	12.2	14,557	9.0	-31.2	-26.7		
France	9,614	3.4	8,892	3.4	-7.5	-2.17		
U.A.Emirates	7,762	4.5	7,370	4.8	- 5	4.9		
Singapore	5,788	2.1	6,289	3.3	8.6	52.9		

Grand Total	298,342	174.2	258,516	149.6	-13.3	-14.1
Others not Listed	77,569	32	41,835	23.7		
Total for Others	220,773	142.1	216,681	125.9		
Canada	6,238	3.9	3,472	2.	- 44	-47.4
Saudi Arabia	5,477	3.6	4,058	2.9	-25.9	-17.8
Reunion	2,628	1.5	4,215	1.5	60.3	-6.8
Angola	4,006	2.7	4,381	2.8	9.3	3.5
Mauritius	4,591	2.2	4,542	2.0	- 1	-10.9
Germany	11,905	6.6	4,979	2.8	-58.1	-65.6
Benin	4,329	2.2	5,530	3.4	27.7	52.5

Source: WTA

Pears, Fresh								
Time Period			Jan	-Oct				
Exports for:	20	004	20	005	% change	%change		
	MT	US\$ MIL.	MT	US\$ MIL	MT	US\$		
U.S.	972	0.625	341	0.242	-64.9	-61.2		
Others								
Netherlands	36,113	18.7	31,310	18.9	-13.3	1.7		
U.K.	23,402	18.9	29,984	19.9	16.9	4.8		
Belgium	22,616	11.7	23,779	16.2	5.1	37.9		
France	7,284	3.2	8,507	3.3	16.8	26.6		
Germany	7,217	3.8	8,305	4.1	15.1	9.2		
Malaysia	4,291	2.2	5,592	4.2	30.3	43.8		
Russia	7,406	3.3	4,331	2.2	-41.5	-31.8		
Canada	3,745	2.3	3,740	2.0	-0.1	-13.4		
Italy	3,449	2.2	3,417	2.2	-0.9	-2.7		

U.A.Emirates	1,011	0.9	1,988	2.3	96.7	25.4
Singapore	2,462	1.1	3,169	2.0	28.7	67.2
Total for Others	118,996	68.925	124,122	77.3		
Others not Listed	19,809	9.575	18,639	10.6		
Grand Total	138,805	78.5	142,761	87.9	2.8	11.9

Source: WTA

Table grapes, Fresh										
Time Period	Jan-Oct									
Exports for:	2004		2005		% change	%change				
	MT	US\$ MIL.	MT	US\$ MIL	MT	US\$				
U.S.	2,558	2.96	1,185	1.2	-53.67	-59.2				
Others										
Netherlands	82,823	102.7	68,965	90.8	-16.7	-11.6				
U.K.	36,015	39.1	34,237	48.6	-4.9	24.4				
Belgium	31,223	32.5	30,022	38.7	-3.8	19.1				
Germany	15,549	15.4	12,752	6.5	-17.9	-6.1				
Hong Kong	5,863	5.5	5,066	3.9	-13.5	16.9				
Russia	4,425	4.3	3,366	3.8	-23.9	-10.3				
U.A.Emirates	2,315	2.4	3,099	3.5	33.8	61.9				
Canada	3,497	3.9	2,985	3.8	-14.6	-10.6				
Portugal	2,306	2.7	2,887	3.1	25.2	41.9				
France	3,925	3.4	2,727	2.8	-30.5	-9.8				
Total for Others	190,449	211.9	167,291	221.2						
Others not Listed	21,358	25.3	18,809	19.7						
Grand Total	211,857	237.2	186,100	240.9	-12.1	1.57				

Source: WTA

Policy

Export Standards and Requirements for Apples 2005 can be accessed at; http://www.deciduous.co.za/special%20exports/export_stan_apples.htm

The updated industry MRL guidelines released by October 2005 can be accessed at; http://www.deciduous.co.za/trade%20and%20market/trade.htm

Policy Subcategory

South Africa's Deciduous Fruit Production industry, led by Optimal Agricultural Business Systems (OABS), derived a new methodology for crop estimates to ensure consistency in the industry data. This new strategy resulted from concerns by the National Ports Authority of South Africa about congestion in Cape Town's Container Terminal that causes delays for all

port users. OABS identified the major cause for the delays as inefficiency in the logistical processes due to lack of relatively accurate crop estimates.

The methodology is based on previous studies from Australia, the US, and South Africa. Estimations are expected to have less than 5% deviation from actual figures and will be based on historical actual production; estimated new plantings, fruit set information from technical experts, and estimated crop damages. The same approach will be used for all types of fruit with added specifications only when necessary.

The process of methodology will follow three stages. The first estimates, mainly theoretical, will reduce the impact of natural or seasonal deviations using a three-year average of actual intake inspection information is used as base estimates. The first estimates will be released as official.

The second estimates will be conducted a month later with more details and certainty about fruit set and sizes where applicable. It will then be approved by the regional crop estimate committee, which are comprised of farmer representatives, exporters, and PPECB officials.

Consecutive estimates will be determined by the seasonal production period, and will compose of a total number of estimates per fruit types.

The ARC, DFPT, and the International Atomic Energy Agency are funding research about sterile insect technique (SIT) for Codling Moth between Canada and South Africa in pome fruit (apples and pears). It is indicated that South Africa's mild conditions makes it one of the highest infested globally. For more information, please go to www.deciduous.co.za

Marketing

The deciduous fruit industry indicates that the 2004/5 season was difficult because of lower export revenues and distorted shipping patterns to Europe. South Africa's Apple exports were affected by strong competition from Argentina, Chile, and New Zealand during their peak season.

Marketing Subcategory

South Africa's deciduous fruit industry established other Special Export Programs with Mexico, Taiwan, and Israel (only table grapes).